

MEMORANDUM
ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY

COPIES TO (name and department)

To Mr. D. W. Kenny

Mr. V. L. Gregory
Mr. J. C. Haas
Mr. F. J. Rarig
Mr. W. Ambrogi
Mr. B. D. Allen

From Robert P. Goodale
Date March 16, 1971

Subject JOHN CLANCY - PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

135280

By prior arrangement, Mr. Clancy called at our office today to "get our side" of the story of disposal of arsenical wastes by our subsidiary Whitmoyer Laboratories. Mr. Allen was present during the discussion.

I gave Mr. Clancy the same information which we have already given to other news media, namely that there is roughly 750 tons of a tarry residue from our plant operations at Whitmoyer that has been disposed in the sea by jettisoning drums of material at least 1000 miles from the shore. I explained to Mr. Clancy that arrangements for disposal of this arsenical waste had been reviewed completely with state and local authorities, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard and that there had been no objection on the part of any of these agencies to our disposal procedure during the approximately two years that this had been in effect. I also told him that we notified the Coast Guard and the Corps of Engineers whenever a shipment of the drummed material was to be made. I provided Mr. Clancy with a copy of our Careers booklet to give him some general background on our company and I also gave him one of our Whitmoyer booklets to show how arsenilic acid is used to promote growth and health of poultry and swine. We had a general discussion of Rohm and Haas' philosophy on waste disposal and I gave him a file which contained one of our booklets published in 1952 on the Bristol plant's disposal operations, as well as a number of reprints from the Formula on our disposal methods and policies.

The one point which I am concerned could cause a creditability problem is my answer to Mr. Clancy's question of whether we disposed of other material to the sea. I told him we did not, which is the truth in the sense that we are not presently doing so, but I did not mention that there was a dilute aqueous waste from Whitmoyer's production. In view of the fact that disclosure of this aspect of the waste disposal problem undoubtedly will be made on Friday, March 19th, I was concerned whether I should call Mr. Clancy and tell him about the aqueous waste. I discussed this with Mr. Ambrogi and it was our conclusion that we should run the risk of some loss of creditability and say nothing further to any of the news media about the aqueous waste until after the meeting with EPA on Friday, March 19th.

Mr. Clancy is sending a photographer this morning to Pier 38 to take a picture of the drums being loaded on the truck for return to Myerstown. He asked what we would do if we were not allowed to resume dumping in the sea. I told him we felt confident that when all the facts were known this would not be a problem, but obviously if we were constrained from further dumping that this would necessitate a reevaluation of the situation. He asked if any studies had been carried on for recycling or making further use of the material and I told him this had been the subject of a continuing

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investigation but we did not have any method yet in view that we felt would be satisfactory. He asked if we might redouble our efforts in view of the present situation and I told him this undoubtedly would be the case.

He did not indicate when the story would appear, but I hope it may be in the Wednesday, March 17th edition. On the whole, I felt Mr. Clancy was going to write an objective article.

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